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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bumbarger, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/408,861  
Filed: September 30, 1999  
For: Protective Multi-Layered Liquid Retaining Composite  
Group Art Unit: 1771  
Attorney's Docket No. 4310

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

January 27, 2000

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 1, line 12, after "COMPOSITE" add -- , Serial Number 09/275,194, -- .

On page 12, line 13, after "super absorptive" add - - fibers - - .

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add the following claims:

- -10. The multi-layered, liquid-retaining composite material of claim 1, wherein said filler layer comprises liquid absorbing particles which enlarge in size

02/03/2000 TLUU11 00000036 09408861

01 FC:203  
02 FC:202

198.00 OP  
78.00 OP

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